## Abstract

The present invention relates to a surfactant composition containing a composition containing a diol derivative (I) and a surfactant:

$$R^3$$
 $CH-OR^2$ 
 $CH-OH$ 
 $R^4$ 
 $CH-OH$ 

$$R^1$$
— $CH$ — $CH_2$  (II)

$$R^2$$
 —OH (III)

wherein  $R^1$  is an alkyl or alkenyl group having 4 to 22 carbons,  $R^2$  is an alkyl or alkenyl group having 1 to 18 carbon atoms and one of  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  is a straight-chain or branched alkyl or alkenyl group having 4 to 22 carbon atoms and derived from  $R^1$  and the other is a hydrogen atom.